

FY 2007-2011 Developmental Disabilities State Plan
Goals & Objectives

Goal 1 Employment: Individuals have the opportunity to be successful in obtaining and maintaining integrated competitive employment.

The results of the comprehensive needs assessment indicate that the majority of individuals with DD spend their time in sheltered employment or in non-employment situations. Participants describe major problems and challenges with the availability of job opportunities, employer perceptions, attitudes, lack of understanding and transportation to work opportunities. The lack of supports and accommodations to work and insufficient capacity of employment providers was also considered barriers for some individuals. In the final report of a recent call for investment, Derrick Dufresne, President of Community Resource Associates, indicated that employment or how a person spends their daytime hours has become one of the major issues that individuals face in being able to live in the community. In consideration of this evidence, the Council feels that employment must be a priority for the five-year plan.

Employment Objectives:

1. By 9/30/2011, systems change will occur to provide employment opportunities for individuals in integrated community jobs at a wage comparable to their peers in the same employment setting resulting in at least 300 individuals being employed.
2. By 9/30/2007, 50 individuals will use personal care attendant hours to obtain and retain integrated employment in the community.
3. By 9/30/2007, 25 personal care attendants will be trained to assist individuals in obtaining and retaining integrated competitive jobs in the community.
4. By 9/30/2007, five state agencies will participate in training on best practices in supporting individuals with disabilities in employment.
5. By 9/30/2009, 10 individuals will be employed in state agency jobs as a result of the state agency training.
6. By 9/30/2007, 100 self-advocates, parents, and providers will participate in a joint training on evidence-based practices on inclusive employment.

Goal 2 Education: Students and young children receive quality education in inclusive settings, affording them the opportunities for transition to further their education or enter integrated employment opportunities of their choice.

The data from the focus groups and surveys indicate that a significant number of individuals with DD (46 percent) spend their time in a special public school setting rather than an inclusive classroom and 49 percent of the individuals surveyed felt that an inclusive education opportunity was only “somewhat” available for them or their family member. Participants indicated that they feel that a lack of quality, individualized supports is minimizing student potential. Additional problems and challenges include a lack of knowledge on the part of the schools of best practices and supports for students, school personnel misperceptions, and attitudes concerning learning capacity and support needs of students and a lack of resources limiting needed supports and services. The Council considers education to be a priority based on the data from the statewide needs assessment and the level of impact that education has on the lives of individuals with DD. A quality, inclusive educational experience will impact individuals’ ability to live in the community, obtain integrated employment with comparable wages, and be fully included in the community.

Education Objectives:

1. By 9/30/2008, four school districts will fully implement collaborative teaching models.
2. By 9/30/2011, 600 students with disabilities will be fully included in the general education classroom with appropriate supports.
3. By 9/30/2011, 200 additional students with disabilities will continue their education upon graduation or enter into integrated competitive employment.
4. By 9/30/2011, 300 parents and educators will participate in a joint training on quality inclusive education.
5. By 9/30/2011, four communities will develop or expand current early intervention efforts.

Goal 3 Housing: Individuals reside where and with whom they choose in non-segregated community settings with the availability of individualized supports.

The Missouri Planning Council considers this area of emphasis to be a high priority for its work over the next five years. The needs assessment indicated that individuals with developmental disabilities and their families feel that there are significant problems and challenges with insufficient accessible, affordable, and safe community housing; insufficient in-home supports and services; long HUD housing waiting lists, and difficulties in supporting individuals living on their own in the community. Through other Council projects, we have learned that where individuals live is often dictated by the state and providers and individuals feel that their lives would be improved if they had more control and more community options.

Housing Objectives:

1. By 9/30/2011, a minimum of five communities will increase the number of accessible and affordable housing options in their community.
2. By 9/30/2011, 100 individuals with developmental disabilities will have a home (house or apartment) of their choice.

Goal 4 Health: *People are healthy and benefit from the full range of needed health care services.*

Health Objectives:

1. By 9/30/2011, five medical education programs will develop a sustainable system to educate medical personnel on interacting with individuals with developmental disabilities.

Goal 5 Transportation: Transportation is available to individuals with disabilities that meets their needs.

The needs assessment findings indicate that Missourians with developmental disabilities still struggle with the availability and cost of accessible transportation that allows them to go where they need to go and when they need to go. Individuals indicate that transportation challenges prevent them from working and increasing their independence through increased income. Many others indicate that transportation prevents them from enjoying social and recreational activities that are available to them. Missouri has many rural communities where no transportation options exist or where existing transportation is not accessible, leading individuals with disabilities to be very isolated and never really integrated onto the community.

Transportation Objectives:

1. By 9/30/2011, two communities will develop and sustain a local transportation system that is accessible, affordable and integrated.
2. By 9/30/2011, a guide to building community transportation systems that are accessible, affordable and integrated is developed and promoted through conference presentations, technical assistance contracts, and web-based learning.

Goal 6 Quality Assurance: People are free of abuse, neglect, exploitation and violation of their human rights. They are self-determined and have opportunities for independence, productivity, and integration and inclusion in the community.

The Missouri Planning Council considers this area of emphasis to be a top priority for its work over the next five years. The needs assessment indicated that individuals with developmental disabilities and their families feel that there is still much variance in acceptance in the community and inclusion of people with disabilities. Many people expressed concern that the attitudes and lack of understanding of persons with developmental disabilities led to individuals being excluded from the community and the activities and opportunities in the community. This area of concern carries over into statements made about housing and individuals' ability to choose where and with whom they live, and the limited employment opportunities that individuals with developmental disabilities are able to access. Inclusion issues were mentioned again as the focus group participants discussed education, transportation, and recreation.

QA Objectives:

1. By 9/30/2011, three state habilitation centers will close.
2. By 9/30/2011, all individuals, formerly residing in the closed institutions, will be living in integrated community settings and receive community supports.
3. By 9/30/2011, 20 percent of individuals employed in sheltered workshops will transition into community-integrated employment.
4. By 9/30/2011, admissions to all state habilitation centers will cease.
5. By 9/30/2011, funding for housing and support services for individuals will be separate.
6. By 9/30/2011, systems change will have occurred to allow individuals to have control over their own service budgets (i.e., money follows person, blended funding).
7. By 9/30/2009, a system will be in place to support the training and credentialing of direct care professionals leading to increased recruitment and retention.

8. By 9/30/2011, 10 communities will develop a sustainable system to educate law enforcement personnel on interacting with individuals with developmental disabilities.
9. By 9/30/2011, 100 individuals with developmental disabilities will experience a decrease in full guardianship and an increase in the utilization of other options accorded in guardianship laws.
10. By 9/30/2011, 700 self-advocates and parents who assume advocacy roles will report they were able to impact change in one of the following areas:
 - employment
 - education/early intervention
 - housing
 - health
 - childcare
 - transportation
 - QA
 - legislation
11. By 9/30/2011, 300 self-advocates and parents who assume leadership roles will report they were able to impact systems change in their communities in one of the following areas:
 - employment
 - education/early intervention
 - housing
 - health
 - childcare
 - transportation
 - QA
 - legislation
12. By 9/30/2007, 1,000 individuals, family members and professionals will report that the services and supports received through the Developmental Disabilities Resource Center and Sharing Our Strengths network had a positive impact on their lives.
13. By 9/30/2007, 1000 individuals, family members and professions will receive education and training on state-of-the-art information.
14. By 9/30/2011, 200 individuals will increase their participation in the voting process as measured by a guardianship change; voter registration; obtaining voter ID; serving as an election judge, or calling voters.
15. By 9/30/2011, MPC will participate in the development of a disaster preparation system and make the information and recommendations from this system available to individuals with developmental disabilities, their families and their communities.
16. By 9/30/2011, MPC will participate in the development of life planning strategies for individuals with developmental disabilities and their families

and make the information and recommendations available to individuals and their families.

17. By 9/30/2011, MPC will participate in the development of an abuse and neglect prevention system that involves input from individuals with developmental disabilities and family members and promote a permanent status for this system.
18. By 9/30/2001, the census of "State Schools for the Handicapped" will decrease by 15 percent.

Goal 7 Cross-Cutting: *Legislators, policymakers and the general public have an increased understanding of the issues and needs critical to individuals and families.*

The Council considers advocacy and educational efforts to provide legislators, policymakers and the general public with information and a better understanding of issues that affect Missourians with developmental disabilities and their families as an ongoing priority. Through this effort many of the previous areas of emphasis will be addressed.

Goal 7 Cross-Cutting Objectives:

1. By 9/30/2007, a professional PR campaign will be developed and released to promote best practice and de-stigmatize stereotypes and misconceptions about people with developmental disabilities.